

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) ~~An imaging apparatus as set forth in Claim 12~~ An imaging apparatus for generating an image signal from incident light with higher spatial frequencies of said incident light limited to reduce undersampling artifacts, said apparatus comprising:

an image sensor for generating the image signal from an array of photosites;

an optical section having a spatial filter made of a highly birefringent uniaxial crystal selected from a group comprised of lithium niobate and lithium tantalate interposed in the path of the incident image light so as to produce at least four spots at a detector plane; and

wherein said birefringent uniaxial crystal optical filter is comprised of two double refractors, and said four spots form a rhomboidal pattern wherein a sharp angle of the rhomboid is 45° and wherein the spatial filter is rotated about an optical axis of the imaging apparatus such that a base of the rhomboidal pattern forms an angle with one of two major coordinates of the imaging apparatus of between 20° to 40°.

15-18. (cancelled)

19. (previously presented) An imaging apparatus for generating an image signal from incident light with higher spatial frequencies of said incident light limited to reduce undersampling artifacts, said apparatus comprising:

an image sensor for generating the image signal from an array of photosites;

an optical section having a spatial filter made of a highly birefringent uniaxial crystal selected from a group comprised of lithium niobate and lithium tantalate interposed in the path of the incident image light so as to produce at least four spots at a detector plane; and

wherein said birefringent uniaxial crystal spatial filter is comprised of two double refractors, and said four spots form a rhomboidal pattern wherein a sharp angle of the rhomboid is 45° and wherein the spatial filter is rotated about an optical axis of the imaging apparatus such that a base of the rhomboidal pattern forms an angle with one of two major coordinates of the imaging apparatus of between 20° to 40°.